

Message Text

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONROVIA 3335

PARIS FOR USSS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CFED, EFIN, LI

SUBJECT: TWO CASES OF COUNTERFEIT U.S. DOLLARS

REF: A) MONROVIA 1289; B) MONROVIA 3064

1. I MET WITH MINISTER OF JUSTICE MORGAN ON JUNE 12 AT MY REQUEST TO DISCUSS RUMORS OF COUNTERFEIT DOLLARS TURNING UP IN LIBERIA. MINISTER MORGAN SAID THAT TWO SEPARATE CASES OF INTRODUCTION OF COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY HAD OCCURRED IN THE MONTH OF MAY. THE FIRST CASE INVOLVED COUNTERFEIT ONE-HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS PRESUMABLY INTRODUCED FROM THE IVORY COAST. MOHAMED KABA, CITIZEN OF THE IVORY COAST, WAS APPREHENDED ON MAY 19 AND HAD 4900 DOLLARS IN ONE-HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS IN HIS POSSESSION. MINISTER MORGAN SAID THAT SOME OF HIS POLICE OFFICERS BELIEVE PRINTING

WAS DONE IN THE IVORY COAST. DURING INTERROGATION MOHAMED KABA TRIED ASSIDUOUSLY TO IMPLICATE STANLEY ALPHA, A LIBERIAN CITIZEN. ALPHA WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INTERROGATED BUT RELEASED FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE. MINISTER MORGAN PROVIDED ME WITH A COPY OF THE ONE-HUNDRED DOLLAR NOTE WHICH IS OF POOR WORKMANSHIP. MORGAN SAID FURTHER BILLS IN THE TEN AND TWENTY DOLLAR DENOMINATIONS ARE ALSO IN CIRCULATION ALTHOUGH HE WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE A SAMPLE.

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2. THE SECOND CASE INVOLVES COUNTERFEIT FIFTY DOLLAR BILLS,

FIRST DETECTED BY INTRUSCO ON MAY 24, 1975 (REF A). THE PRIME SUSPECT IN THIS CASE IS ANTHONY ARTHUR MUSSEY, A GHANAIAI NATIONAL, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO HOLD HIM. MINISTER MORGAN ALSO SUPPLIED A SAMPLE OF THE FIFTY DOLLAR COUNTERFEIT BILL.

3. MINISTER MORGAN ASKED WHETHER WE COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE IN THEIR INVESTIGATION OF COUNTERFEITING ACTIVITIES HERE AND ELSEWHERE IN WEST AFRICA. I RESPONDED THAT WE WERE MOST WILLING TO COOPERATE AND THAT I WOULD REQUEST VISIT BY A SECRET SERVICE EXPERT TO ASSIST IN THE INVESTIGATION.

4. SAMPLES OF THE ONE-HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLAR BILLS BEING POUCHED PARIS.

5. MINISTER MORGAN MADE NO REFERENCE TO ANOTHER RUMOR OF IMPLICATION OF LIBERIAN EMBASSY IN VIENNA IN COUNTERFEITING ACTIVITIES (REF B).

6. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY INDICATION OF NAME AND ETA OF SECRET SERVICE EXPERT TO ASSIST IN INVESTIGATION. IF EXAMINATION OF THE SAMPLE BILLS OR NAME CHECKS PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION OF USE TO GOL IN ITS CURRENT INVESTIGATION WOULD APPRECIATE TELGRAPHIC NOTIFICATION.
MANFULL

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